Supreme Court Appeals Pending Cases (02-27-13)

1.	Style	In Re: Angela E. et al.
2.	Docket Number	W2011-01588-SC-R11-PT
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/angelatinreopn.pdf http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/angelatdis.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	This appeal involves a petition to terminate parental rights that was filed in 2005. At the hearing, the Father consented to the termination of his parental rights, so the trial court entered an order terminating his parental rights without making findings of fact and conclusions of law regarding grounds for termination and the children's best interest. Father subsequently challenged the trial court's order on appeal, and the Supreme Court reversed and remanded for the trial court to hold a new hearing and prepare an order with the requisite findings. On remand, the trial court found that Father had not abandoned the children by willfully failing to visit them or by willfully failing to support them, and therefore it declined to terminate his parental rights. We reverse and remand for further proceedings.
5.	Status	Heard 11/07/12 in Jackson
1.	Style	Andrew K. Armbrister v. Melissa H. Armbrister
2.	Docket Number	E2012-00018-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/armbristeraopn.pdf http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/ambristerakdis.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	The parties were divorced on September 2, 2009, and the Trial Court entered a Permanent Parenting Plan. On February 11, 2011, the father filed a Motion to Modify the PPP, alleging a change in circumstances. Following trial of the issues, the Trial Court increased the number of days the father would have the children and reduced the award of child support. The mother has appealed, we reverse the Trial Court.
5.	Status	To be beard 05/30/13 at the Girls State S.C.A.L.E.S. project
1.	Style	Estate of Ina Ruth Brown
2.	Docket Number	E2011-00179-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/inreestateofbrownopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

This appeal arises from a dispute concerning a contract to execute mutual wills. Ina Ruth Brown ("Mrs. Brown"), and her husband, Roy Brown, Jr. ("Mr. Brown"), executed mutual wills as agreed by contract. After Mr. Brown's death, Mrs. Brown executed a new will. Mrs. Brown died. Rockford Evan Estes ("Defendant"), Mrs. Brown's son, submitted the new will for probate. Mr. Brown's adult children, Roy E. Brown, III, Joan Brown Moyers, and Donna Brown Ellis ("the Plaintiffs") filed this will contest suit in the Chancery Court for Knox County, Probate Division ("the Trial Court"), contesting the new will on the basis that, among other things, the mutual wills between Mr. Brown and Mrs. Brown were irrevocable. Both the Plaintiffs and Defendant filed a Motion for Summary Judgment. The Trial Court denied Defendant's motion, granted the Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment, and voided the new will created by Mrs. Brown. Defendant appeals. We hold that the Trial Court did not err in denying Defendant's motion for summary judgment because the Trial Court did have subject matter jurisdiction to hear this will contest based on this breach of contract claim. We further find that the Trial Court did not err in granting the Plaintiffs' motion for summary judgment after also finding that the June 13, 2002 contract to execute mutual wills was supported by adequate consideration. We affirm the judgment of the Trial Court.

5. Status Heard 09/04/12 in Knoxville at UT College of Law

1. Style Doris Cannon as Conservator for the Use and Benefit of Juanita E. Good v. Bhasker Reddy, M.D.

2. Docket Number M2012-01332-SC-S10-CV

3. Lower Court Decision Link

n/a

4. Lower Court Summary

n/a

5. Status

Heard 02/06/13 in Nashville

1. Style City of Memphis, Tennessee et al. v. Tre Hargett, Secretary of State et al.

2. Docket Number M2012-02141-SC-R11-CV

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/cityofmemphisopnjudorder.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The City of Memphis and two persons who had to cast provisional ballots in the August 2012 election because they lacked sufficient photographic identification filed a declaratory judgment action seeking to have the photographic identification requirement for voting declared unconstitutional, or to have the Memphis library photographic identification card declared sufficient identification for purposes of the voting law. The trial court found that the plaintiffs did not have standing, that the photographic identification requirement was constitutional and that the

Memphis library photographic identification card was not acceptable under the law as sufficient identification for voting. The plaintiffs appealed. We find that the plaintiffs have standing, that the law is constitutional and that the Memphis library photographic identification card is acceptable under the law as sufficient proof of identification for voting.

5.	Status	Heard 02/06/13 in Nashville
1.	Style	Jeffrey R. Cooper v. Phillip Glasser, et al.
2.	Docket Number	M2012-00344-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/cooperjr_opn.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	Jeffrey R. Cooper ("Cooper") sued Phillip Glasser, Richard Glasser, and David Glasser ("the Defendants") in the Circuit Court for Davidson County ("the Trial Court") 1 for, among other things, breach of contract. Cooper previously had filed two lawsuits arising out of the same underlying facts as those of this lawsuit. Both previous lawsuits, the first in a California state court and the second in a United States District Court in Tennessee, were voluntarily dismissed. The Defendants filed a motion for summary judgment. The Trial Court held that the second voluntary dismissal in federal court was a judgment on the merits under the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and, <i>res judicata</i> prevented Cooper from filing suit for a third time in Tennessee. Cooper appeals. We affirm.
5.	Status	Granted 02/13/13; Appellant's brief due 03/15/13
1.	Style	State ex rel. Robert E. Cooper, Jr., Attorney General and Reporter of the State of Tennessee v. NV Sumatra Tobacco Trading Company
2.	Docket Number	M2010-01955-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/state_of_tennessee_by_and_through_r obert_e_cooper_jr_attorney_general_and_reporter_for_the_state_of_tennessee_v_nv_sumatra_tobacco_trading_company.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	This appeal involves <i>in personam</i> jurisdiction over a foreign defendant. Appellant State of Tennessee brought suit against Appellee tobacco product manufacturer, under the Tobacco Escrow Fund Act, Tennessee Code Annotated Sections 47-31-101 <i>et seq.</i> , alleging that Appellee had failed to make escrow deposits, as required under the Act, for cigarettes sold in Tennessee. Based upon the trial court's finding that it lacked personal jurisdiction over the Appellee, it entered summary judgment in favor of the manufacturer. The State appeals. Upon review, we conclude that: (1) the facts of this case show that the manufacturer intentionally used a distribution

system with the desired result of selling its product in all fifty states, including Tennessee, so as to support a finding that the manufacturer had minimum contacts

with the State necessary to invoke the exercise of personal jurisdiction; (2) the exercise of personal jurisdiction, under the facts of this case, is reasonable and fair; (3) the manufacturer is subject to regulation under the Act; and (4) the Act is not unconstitutional. Moreover, we conclude that: (1) Appellee is a tobacco products manufacturer, as defined by the Escrow Fund Act; (2) Appellee's cigarettes were sold in Tennessee; and (3) Appellee is, therefore, liable for escrow payments under the Escrow Fund Act. Consequently, we grant the State's motion for summary judgment. The order of the trial court is reversed, and the matter is remanded for entry of summary judgment in favor of Appellant State and for calculation of the escrow amount owed by Appellee and entry of judgment thereon.

5.	Status	Heard 06/14/12 in Nashville
1.	Style	Walter Ray Culp, III v. Board of Professional Responsibility
2.	Docket Number	M2012-01816-SC-R3-BP
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Heard 02/06/13 in Nashville
1.	Style	Walton Cunningham, et cl. v. Williamson County Hospital District, et al.
2.	Docket Number	M2011-00554-SC-S09-CV

Decision Link http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/cunninghamwopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

Lower Court

3.

Defendants, Williamson Medical Center and five of its employees, appeal from the denial of their motion to dismiss this medical malpractice action. They contend the action is time barred because it was filed more than one year after the cause of action accrued, in violation of the one year statute of limitations applicable to Tennessee Governmental Tort Liability Act actions, codified at Tennessee Code Annotated § 29-20-305(b). The trial court, however, found that the action was timely filed because it was commenced within the 120-day extension afforded to the plaintiffs pursuant to an amendment to the Tennessee Medical Malpractice Act, codified at Tennessee Code Annotated § 29-26-121(c) (2009). We have determined that the amendment codified at Tennessee Code Annotated § 29-26-121(a)-(c) applies, notwithstanding the one-year statute of limitations provision under the Governmental Tort Liability Act, that the plaintiffs' compliance with the pre-suit notification provision in Tennessee Code Annotate § 29-26-121(a) extended the statute of limitations by 120 days, and that this action was timely filed within the 120-day extension. Therefore, were affirm.

5. Status Heard 10/03/12 in Nashville

1.	Style	In re: David E. Danner
2.	Docket Number	M2012-02019-SC-R3-BP
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Record filed $12/05/12$; Show cause order filed $02/01/13$; Appellant's brief due $03/01/13$; Appellee's brief due $04/01/13$
1.	Style	Cristy Irene Fair v. Stephen Lynn Cochran
2.	Docket Number	E2011-00831-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/fairciopn.pdf http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/faircidis.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	The Trial Court dismissed this case based upon its finding that although plaintiff's Summons was issued the day she filed her Complaint, proof of service was not made to the clerk until 412 days later, and, because plaintiff had failed to comply with Tenn. R. Civ. P. 4, plaintiff was not entitled to rely on Tenn. R. Civ. P. 3 to toll the statute of limitations. Plaintiff appeals. We affirm.
5.	Status	Heard 01/03/13 in Knoxville
1.	Style	Glassman, Edwards, Wyatt, Tuttle & Cox, P.C. v. B.J. Wade and Shannon Crowe
2.	Docket Number	W2012-00321-SC-S10-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Heard 11/07/12 in Jackson
1.	Style	Jim Hammond, Sheriff of Hamilton County et al. v. Chris Harvey et al.
2.	Docket Number	No. E2011-01700-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/hammondj.pdf

4.	Lower Court
	Summary

Six sergeants (collectively "the Sergeants") employed by Jim Hammond, the Sheriff of Hamilton County ("the Sheriff"), filed a grievance with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Office Civil Service Board ("the Board") complaining that there is an unlawful disparity in pay among the 19 sergeants on the force. The Board found a disparity and ordered the Sheriff "to equalize their pay and if all [s]ergeants do the same job that they should be paid the same if there is no written criteria to establish standards." The Sheriff appealed to the trial court by petition for a writ of certiorari. The court (1) held that the Board was without authority to order the Sheriff to equalize the pay of the 19 sergeants and (2) declared the Board's decision "null and void." The Sergeants appeal. We modify the trial court's judgment and remand to the Board with instructions.

5. Status

Heard 01/03/13 in Knoxville

1. Style

- Erik Hood v. Casey Jenkins, et al.
- 2. Docket Number

E2011-02749-SC-R11-CV

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/hoodopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

This appeal involves a claim for breach of a life insurance contract issued by Old Line. Father named his son, a minor, as the beneficiary of his life insurance policy. When Father died, the proceeds of the policy were issued to minor's older sister, who depleted the funds. Beneficiary filed suit against Sister and Old Line, alleging that Sister misappropriated the life insurance proceeds and that Old Line erroneously awarded the proceeds to Sister without proper documentation. A default judgment was entered against Sister. Following a trial on Beneficiary's claim against Old Line, the court ordered Old Line to re-issue a portion of the proceeds to Beneficiary. Old Line appeals. We affirm the decision of the trial court.

5. Status

Granted 02/13/13; Appellant's brief due 03/15/13

1. Style

Roger David Hyman v. Board of Professional Responsibility

- 2. Docket Number
- E2012-02091-SC-R3-BP
- 3. Lower Court

Decision Link n/a

4. Lower Court

Summary n/a

5. Status

Record filed 01/23/13; Appellant's brief due 03/25/13, after extension

1. Style

Clifton A. Lake et al v. The Memphis Landsmen, LLC et al

2. Docket Number

W2011-00660-SC-R11-CV

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/OPINIONS/TCA/PDF/101/Clifton%20Lake%20etal%20v%20Memphis%20Landsmen%20OOC%20etal%20OPN.pdf

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/landsmenopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

This is an appeal from a jury verdict in a negligence and products liability case. Appellant-Husband was injured when the bus, on which he was a passenger, collided with a concrete truck. Appellant-Husband and Appellant-Wife filed suit against Appellees- the bus manufacturer, the bus owner, and the franchisor. Following trial, the jury found that the Appellants had suffered \$8,543,630.00 in damages, but found that none of the Appellees were at fault and apportioned one hundred percent of the fault to a non-party. Appellants appeal. We find that Appellants' claims based on the use of tempered glass in the side windows of the bus, and the lack of passenger seatbelts in the bus are preempted by the National Traffic and Motor Vehicle Safety Act, 49 U.S.C. §30101 et seq. Further, we find that the Appellants failed to present evidence that the use of perimeter seating in the bus caused the injuries. Consequently, we find that the trial court erred in not granting Appellees' motions for directed verdict on the Appellants' claims based on the use of perimeter seating. Reversed and remanded.

5. Status

Heard 11/07/12 in Jackson

1. Style

Neal Lovlace et al. v. Timothy K. Copley et al.

2. Docket Number

M2011-00170-SC-R11-CV

3. Lower Court

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/lovlacen.concurrence.dissent.pdf http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/lovlacen.concurrence.dissent.pdf http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/lovlacevcopleysepcon.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

This is a modification of child visitation case, involving grandparent visitation. The Appellant grandparents appeal the trial court's order, denying their request for more visitation with the minor child, as well as the failure of the trial court to find the Appellee/Mother guilty of all alleged incidents of civil contempt. In the posture of Appellees, the mother and her husband (the child's adoptive father) argue that the Appellants are not entitled to any visitation. We conclude that in modification of grandparent visitation cases, if the parent is the movant, his or her burden is to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that there has been a material change in circumstance affecting the child's best interest. However, where the movant is the non-parent, we hold that the grandparent visitation statute provides that the burden is on the non-parent to show, by a preponderance of the evidence, that there has been a material change in circumstance that would present a substantial risk of harm to the child if modification is denied. Because the trial court incorrectly applied the best interest standard, we vacate its order modifying the visitation arrangement. We also conclude that the trial court did not abuse its discretion in finding the mother in civil contempt on five counts; however, we conclude that the award of attorney's fees for that contempt is not clear as to what portion, if any, of those fees was expended for prosecution of the contempts, and what portion, if any, was expended in pursuit of the Appellees' attempt to modify the visitation order. Therefore, we also vacate the award of attorney's fees and remand for an award of those fees associated only with the prosecution of the contempts. Vacated in part, affirmed in part, and remanded.

5.	Status	Heard 02/07/13 in Nashville
1.	Style	H. Owen Maddux v. Board of Professional Responsibility
2.	Docket Number	E2012-01809-SC-R3-BP
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Record filed 11/15/12; Appellant's brief filed 01/14/13; Appellee's brief filed 02/07/13
1.	Style	William H. Mansell v. Bridgestone Firestone North American Tire, LLC
2.	Docket Number	M2012-02394-WC-R3-WC
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Record filed $12/06/12$; Appellant's brief filed $01/04/13$; Appellee's brief filed $02/04/13$
1.	Style	Aundrey Meals et al. v. Ford Motor Company
2.	Docket Number	W2010-01493-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/mealsaundreyopn.pdf http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/mealsadis.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	Following a seven week trial, the jury returned a verdict in favor of Plaintiff in this products liability action. The jury awarded compensatory damages in excess of \$43 million, and assessed 15 percent fault against Defendant car manufacturer. Defendant appeals. We affirm the jury verdict with respect to liability but remand with a suggestion of remittitur.
5.	Status	To be heard 04/03/13 in Jackson

1.	Style	Herbert S. Moncier v. Board of Professional Responsibility
2.	Docket Number	E2012-00340-SC-R3-BP
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Heard 01/03/13 in Knoxville
1.	Style	Morgan Keegan & Company, Inc. v. William Hamilton Smythe, III
2.	Docket Number	W2010-01339-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/morgankeeganopn.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	This appeal involves a trial court's order vacating an arbitration award. The parties engaged in arbitration over a dispute in which the respondent investors asserted that the petitioner investment company mismanaged their funds. The investors prevailed and received a substantial arbitration award against the investment company. The investment company filed a petition in the trial court to vacate the arbitration award, alleging partiality and bias on the part of two members of the arbitration panel. After a hearing, the trial court entered an order vacating the arbitration award and remanding the matter to the regulatory authority for a rehearing before another panel of arbitrators. The respondent investors now appeal. We dismiss the appeal for lack of appellate jurisdiction.
5.	Status	Heard 11/08/12 in Memphis
1.	Style	E. Ron Pickard, et al. v. Tennessee Water Quality Control Board, et al.
2.	Docket Number	M2011-02600-SC-R11-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/pickard_e_ronopn.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation issued a draft permit allowing a proposed rock quarry to discharge storm water and wastewater into a nearby creek. Owners of property allegedly affected by the discharge filed a declaratory order petition with the Water Quality Control Board, seeking a declaration construing the rules regarding the protection of existing uses of waters. The Water Quality Control Board dismissed the petition as not ripe. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation subsequently issued a final permit

to the quarry and the property owners filed both a permit appeal and another

declaratory order petition with the Water Quality Control Board. The Water Quality Control Board again dismissed the declaratory order petition. The property owners subsequently filed a petition for a declaratory judgment in the Davidson County Chancery Court. The Water Quality Control Board and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation argued that the petition was not ripe and that the property owners had not exhausted their administrative remedies. In addition, the Water Quality Control Board and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation argued that Tennessee Code Annotated Section 69-3-105(i) precluded the property owners from bringing a declaratory order petition prior to issuance of a permit. The trial court ruled in favor of the property owners and issued a declaratory judgment on the construction of Tennessee Compiled Rule and Regulation 1200-04-03-.06. We affirm the trial court's rulings with regard to ripeness, exhaustion of administrative remedies, and Tennessee Code Annotated Section 69-3-105(I), but reverse the grant of summary judgment on the construction of Tennessee Compiled Rule and Regulation 1200-04-03-.06 and remand for further proceedings.

<i>J</i> .	Status	Granica 02/15/15, Appenant 3 biter due 05/16/15
1.	Style	Eddie C. Pratcher, Jr. v. Consultants in Anesthesia, Inc. et al.
2.	Docket Number	W2011-01576-SC-S09-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Heard 11/08/12 in Memphis
1.	Style	Hong Samouth (Sam) Rajvongs v. Dr. Anthony Wright
2.	Docket Number	M2011-01889-SC-S09-CV

Granted 02/15/13: Appellant's brief due 03/18/13

5.

3.

4.

Lower Court Decision Link

Lower Court

Summary

Status

A patient who alleged that he had been negligently injured by his podiatrist filed a complaint against him for malpractice, and then voluntary dismissed the complaint without prejudice. Less than a year later, he furnished the defendant podiatrist with the sixty day notice of potential claim required by a recently enacted statute, Tenn. Code Ann. § 29-26-121(a). He subsequently refiled his complaint in reliance on his rights under the saving statute, Tenn. Code Ann. § 28-1-105. The defendant filed a motion for summary judgment, arguing that the complaint was time-barred under the saving statute because it was filed more than one year after the dismissal of the original complaint. The plaintiff contended, however, that he was entitled to the benefit of Tenn. Code Ann. § 29-26-121(c), which extends the statute of limitations on medical malpractice claims by 120 days if the plaintiff has complied with the

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/rajvongsh_opn_corr.pdf

sixty day notice requirement. The defendant responded by arguing that Tenn. Code Ann. § 29-26-121(c) does not apply to complaints filed under the saving statute. The trial court dismissed the defendant's motion for summary judgment, but allowed him to file an application for interlocutory appeal because of the novelty of the legal question involved. After careful consideration of the relevant statutes, we hold that Tenn. Code Ann. § 29-26-121(c) does apply to the saving statute, and we affirm.

5.	Status	Heard 02/07/13	in Nashville

1. Style Velda J. Shore v. Maple Lane Farms, LLC et al.

2. Docket Number E2011-00158-SC-R11-CV

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/shoreopncorrected.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The plaintiff homeowner appeals from the trial court's dismissal of her complaint, in which the court found the defendants' farm activities were protected from the application of the local zoning laws by the Tennessee Right-to-Farm Act, Tennessee Code Annotated section 43-26-101, et seq. We affirm the judgment of the trial court.

5. Status Heard 01/03/13 in Knoxville

1. Style State v. Prince Adams

2. Docket Number W2009-01492-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/adamspopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The defendant, Prince Adams, was convicted by a Shelby County jury of premeditated first degree murder and subsequently sentenced to life in the Tennessee Department of Correction. He now appeals his conviction, presenting five issues for our review: (1) whether the evidence is sufficient to support the conviction; (2) whether the trial court properly allowed into evidence photographs of the victim (a) while she was alive and (b) of her body at the crime scene; (3) whether the court properly denied the defendant's motion in limine with regard to the admission of his prior domestic violence charge; (4) whether the defendant is entitled to a new trial because an alternate juror left a note expressing his position with regard to the defendant's guilt, which was found by the jury foreperson prior to jury deliberations; and (5) whether the court correctly denied the defendant's request for a special jury instruction on diminished capacity. Following review of the record, we find no issue that would entitle the defendant to relief. As such, the conviction and sentence are affirmed.

5. Status Heard 11/08/12 in Memphis

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1.	Style	Tracy Rose Baker v. State
2.	Docket Number	M2011-01381-SC-R11-PC
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/bakertropn.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	The Appellant, Tracy Rose Baker, appeals the post-conviction court's dismissal of her petition for post-conviction relief. The Appellant asserts that her guilty plea to criminal contempt charges is void due to constitutional infirmities stemming from the chancery court's failure to conduct an in-court guilty plea acceptance hearing at the time of her guilty plea. Because we conclude that the Post-Conviction Procedure Act is not applicable to the Petitioner's criminal contempt convictions, we affirm the post-conviction court's dismissal of the Appellant's petition.
5.	Status	Granted 11/28/12; Appellant's brief due 02/16/13, after extension
1.	Style	State v. Courtney Bishop
2.	Docket Number	W2010-01207-SC-R11-CD
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/bishopcourtneyopn.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	The defendant, Courtney Bishop, appeals his Shelby County Criminal Court jury convictions for felony murder and attempted aggravated robbery, challenging the sufficiency of the convicting evidence and the trial court's refusal to suppress his pretrial statement to police. Because the trial court erred by failing to suppress the defendant's statement, the defendant is entitled to a new trial. Because the evidence was insufficient to support the defendant's convictions for attempted aggravated robbery and first degree murder in the perpetration of attempted aggravated robbery, those convictions are reversed. The conviction for attempted aggravated robbery is dismissed. The conviction for first degree murder is modified to one for second degree murder. Accordingly, the case is remanded for a new trial on the modified charge of second degree murder.
5.	Status	To be heard 04/03/13 in Jackson
1.	Style	Derrick Brandon Bush v. State
2.	Docket Number	M2011-02133-SC-R11-PC
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/bushdopn.pdf

4.	Lower Court
	Summary

Derrick Brandon Bush ("the Petitioner") pled guilty to two counts of attempt to commit rape in December 2000. On April 25, 2011, the Petitioner filed for post-conviction relief, alleging that his guilty plea was unconstitutional in light of *Ward v. State*, 315 S.W.3d 461 (Tenn. 2010), and that the one-year post-conviction statute of limitations should be tolled. After a hearing, the post-conviction court granted relief. The State appealed. Upon our thorough review of the record, we hold that the rule announced in Ward does not apply retroactively. Therefore, the Petitioner is not entitled to tolling of the statute of limitations pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated section 40-30-102(b)(1). We also hold that the Petitioner is not entitled to tolling on due process grounds. Thus, the Petitioner's claim for relief is barred by the statute of limitations. Accordingly, we reverse the judgment of the post-conviction court.

5. Status

Granted 10/17/12; No Appellant's brief filed; State's response brief filed 12/06/12

1. Style

- State v. Terrance Antonio Cecil
- 2. Docket Number

M2011-01210-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/cecilterranceopn 0.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Maury County jury convicted the Defendant, Terrance Antonio Cecil, of assault and false imprisonment, both Class A misdemeanors. The trial court sentenced the Defendant to concurrent sentences of six months incarceration, with all but sixty days on each suspended, followed by ten months on probation. On appeal, the Defendant contends: (1) the evidence is insufficient to sustain his convictions; (2) the trial court erred when it considered his prior arrest record in sentencing; and (3) the trial court committed plain error by failing to instruct the jury on the lesser-included offenses of attempted false imprisonment and attempted assault. After a thorough review of the record and relevant authorities, we affirm the trial court's judgments.

5. Status

To be beard 05/29/13 at the Boys State S.C.A.L.E.S. project

1. Style

- State v. Fred Chad Clark, II
- 2. Docket Number
- M2010-00570-SC-R11-CD
- 3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/clarkfredchadopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The Defendant, Fred Chad Clark, II, was found guilty by a Davidson County Criminal Court jury of seven counts of rape of a child and two counts of aggravated sexual battery. See T.C.A. §§ 39-13-522 (Supp. 2005, 2006) (amended 2007, 2011) (rape of a child), -504 (2006) (aggravated sexual battery). He was sentenced as a Range I offender to seventeen years for each rape of a child conviction and to ten

years for each aggravated sexual battery conviction, to be served at 100% as a child rapist. The trial court ordered partial consecutive sentencing, for an effective thirty-four year sentence. On appeal, the Defendant contends that (1) the evidence is insufficient to support the convictions because the State failed to establish the corpus delicti; (2) there was a material variance between the proof and the State's election of offenses; (3) the trial court erred in admitting surreptitiously recorded conversations he had with his wife on January 18, 2007; (4) the trial court erred in admitting evidence of the Defendant's use of pornography; (5) the trial court erred in allowing a detective to offer opinion testimony about the Defendant's truthfulness; (6) the trial court erred in instructing the jury on the mental state of recklessness for the counts involving rape of a child; and (7) the trial court erred in sentencing by using an inapplicable enhancement factor and in imposing consecutive sentences. We affirm the judgments of the trial court in Counts V, VI, VII, IX, and X. Due to deficiencies in the election of offenses relative to Counts I, II, III, and IV, we reverse those convictions and remand the case for a new trial for those counts.

5. Status

Granted 02/13/13; Appellant's brief due 03/15/13

1. Style

State v. David Hooper Climer, Jr.

2. Docket Number

W2010-01667-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/climerdavidopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Gibson County Circuit Court jury convicted the appellant, David Hooper Climer, Jr., of first degree premeditated murder and abuse of a corpse, and the trial court sentenced him to consecutive sentences of life and two years, respectively. On appeal, the appellant contends that (1) the evidence is insufficient to support the premeditated murder conviction and shows he was insane when he abused the victim's corpse, (2) the trial court should have granted his motion to sever, (3) the trial court should have granted his motion to suppress his statements to police, (4) he was denied his right to a speedy trial, and (5) the trial court should have dismissed a prospective juror for cause. Based upon our review of the record and the parties' briefs, we conclude that the evidence is insufficient to support the appellant's conviction of first degree premeditated murder but that the evidence is sufficient to support a conviction for the lesser-included offense of second degree murder. The appellant's first degree murder conviction is reduced to second degree murder, and the case is remanded to the trial court for resentencing. The appellant's conviction of abuse of a corpse is affirmed.

5. Status

Heard 11/07/12 in Jackson

1. Style

State v. DeWayne Collier

2. Docket Number

W2010-01606-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/collierdewayneopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

Following a Shelby County jury trial, the Defendant, DeWayne Collier, was convicted of aggravated statutory rape. At the time of the crime, the Defendant was forty-two years old and the victim was fourteen years old. The trial court sentenced the Defendant to four years as a Range II, multiple offender. On appeal, the Defendant argues that the trial court erred in denying his motion for judgment of acquittal and that the evidence was insufficient to support his conviction because the fourteen-year-old victim was an accomplice and there was not sufficient corroborating evidence. After a thorough review of the record on appeal, we conclude that the victim is legally an accomplice regardless of the fact that she cannot be indicted for her own statutory rape. However, we also determine that there is additional evidence to adequately corroborate her testimony. Therefore, we conclude that the evidence is sufficient to support the Defendant's conviction. We affirm the judgment of the trial court.

5. Status

Appellant's brief filed 02/19/13; State's response brief due 03/21/13

1. Style

State v. Kevin Anthony Dickson

Docket Number

E2010-01781-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/dicksonkevinanthonyopn.pdf http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/dicksondissent2.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The Defendant, Kevin Anthony Dickson, Jr., was found guilty by the Sevier County Circuit Court of two counts of attempted first degree murder, a Class A felony, especially aggravated burglary, a Class B felony, two counts of aggravated assault, a Class C felony, and attempted aggravated robbery, a Class C felony. See T.C.A. §§ 39-13-202 (2010), 39-14-404 (2010), 39-13-102 (2006) (amended 2009, 2010, 2011), 39-13-402 (2010), 39-12-101 (2010). The trial court merged one count of aggravated assault into an attempted first degree murder conviction. The Defendant was sentenced as a Range I, standard offender to twenty-five years for each attempted first degree murder conviction, twelve years for especially aggravated burglary, and six years each for the aggravated assault and attempted aggravated robbery convictions. The trial court ordered the attempted first degree murder convictions to be served consecutively, for an effective sentence of fifty years. On appeal, the Defendant contends that (1) the evidence is insufficient to support his attempted first degree murder convictions, (2) his conviction for especially aggravated burglary is barred by Tennessee Code Annotated section 39-14-404(d), and (3) the trial court erred by applying improper sentencing enhancement factors and ordering partially consecutive sentences. We affirm the judgments for the attempted first degree murder of Christopher Lyons, aggravated assault, and attempted aggravated robbery. We reverse the judgments for the attempted first degree murder of Rodney Hardin and especially aggravated burglary and remand the case for sentencing and entry of judgments of conviction for attempted second degree murder and aggravated burglary.

5. Status

To be beard 05/29/13 at the Boys State S.C.A.L.E.S. project

1. Style State v. LeDarren Hawkins

2. Docket Number W2010-01687-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/hawkinslsopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Madison County jury convicted the Defendant, LeDarren S. Hawkins, of first degree murder and tampering with evidence, and the trial court sentenced him to serve an effective life sentence in the Tennessee Department of Correction. On appeal, the Defendant contends that the evidence is insufficient to support his convictions and that the trial court refused to instruct the jury regarding the defense of a third person as an affirmative defense. After a thorough review of the record and the applicable law, we affirm the trial court's judgments.

5. Status Heard 02/06/13 in Nashville

1. Style State vs. Nickolus L. Johnson

2. Docket Number E2010-00172-SC-DDT-DD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/johnsonnickolusopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Sullivan County jury convicted the Defendant, Nickolus L. Johnson, of premeditated firstdegree murder, see Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-202(a)(1) (2006), for the shooting death of Officer Mark Vance of the Bristol Police Department. Following penalty phase proceedings, the jury found the presence of the following two aggravating circumstances: (1) that the defendant previously had been convicted of one or more felonies whose statutory elements involved the use of violence to the person; and (2) that the defendant knew or should have known when he committed the murder that the victim was a law enforcement officer engaged in the performance of his official duties. See Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-204(i)(2), (9) (2006). After finding that these aggravating circumstances outweighed any mitigating factors presented by the defense, the jury sentenced the Defendant to death. See Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-204(g)(1) (2006). In this appeal, the Defendant challenges both his conviction and accompanying death sentence. He raises the following issues for our review: (1) whether the evidence presented during the guilt phase was sufficient to support his conviction; (2) whether Tennessee's death penalty statute violates article I, section 19 of the Tennessee Constitution; (3) whether the exclusion of jurors from the jury based on their views on the death penalty violates article I, sections 6 and 19 of the Tennessee Constitution; (4) whether the trial court erred in admitting into evidence the videotape of the Defendant taken in Officer Graham's patrol car immediately following the Defendant's arrest; (5) whether the trial court erred in failing to require defense counsel to present mental health mitigation evidence despite the Defendant's objection to the presentation of such evidence; (6) whether individual and cumulative instances of prosecutorial misconduct during closing argument at the penalty phase denied the Defendant his right to a fair trial and should have resulted in the trial court declaring a mistrial; (7) whether the trial court erred in denying defense counsel's requests for special jury instructions during the penalty phase in response to the prosecutor's assertion during closing that the Defendant had failed to express remorse; (8) whether the trial court erred in denying the Defendant's oral motion for a change of venue based on the effect pretrial publicity in the case had on potential jurors; (9) whether the trial court erred in denying defense counsel's request for authorization of funds with which to hire an expert to support the claim that pretrial publicity in the case required a change of venue in order to protect the Defendant's right to a fair trial; and (10) whether the trial court erred in denying defense counsel's request for additional peremptory challenges during jury selection. Following our review of the record, and our mandatory review of the sentence, see Tenn. Code Ann. § 39-13-206(c)(1) (2006), we affirm the judgments including the sentence of death.

5. Status Heard 01/03/13 in Knoxville

1. Style State v. Jereme Dannuel Little

2. Docket Number E2009-01796-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/littlejeremedannuelopn.pdf
Decision Link

4. Lower Court Summary

A Hamilton County grand jury charged the defendant, Jereme Dannuel Little, in number 253372, with two counts of aggravated robbery, see T.C.A. § 39-13-402 (2006), and, in case number 253374, with one count of especially aggravated kidnapping, see id. § 39-13-305. At the close of proof at trial, the trial court granted the defendant's motion for judgments of acquittal on the two aggravated robbery counts. The jury, however, convicted the defendant of especially aggravated kidnapping, and the trial court imposed a sentence of 18 years' incarceration in the Tennessee Department of Correction. On appeal, the defendant contends that the trial court erred by (1) failing to inform the jury regarding the judgments of acquittal of the aggravated robberies; (2) failing to instruct the jury regarding corroboration of accomplice testimony; (3) instructing the jury regarding criminal responsibility for the conduct of another; (4) prohibiting counsel from "putting into evidence or mentioning" during closing argument that the defendant had been acquitted of the two counts of aggravated robbery; and (5) allowing the district attorney to argue at closing that the defendant had committed the aggravated robbery offenses, as relevant to motive for the especially aggravated kidnapping charge. Additionally, the defendant contends that the cumulative effect of the trial court's errors denied him a fair trial. Discerning no reversible error, we affirm the judgment of the trial court.

5. Status Heard 09/04/12 in Knoxville at UT College of Law

1. Style State v. Kimberly Mangrum

2. Docket Number M2009-01810-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/mangrumkimberlyopn.pdf
Decision Link

4. Lower Court Summary

Defendant, Kimberly Mangrum, was indicted by the Dickson County Grand Jury for especially aggravated burglary, especially aggravated kidnapping, first degree premeditated murder, felony murder, and four counts of criminal conspiracy, related to the commission of each of those offenses. Following a jury trial, Defendant was convicted of aggravated burglary, especially aggravated kidnapping, attempted first degree premeditated murder, and felony murder. Her conviction for attempted first degree premeditated murder was merged into her felony murder conviction, and she was sentenced to life imprisonment for her first degree felony murder conviction, twenty-five years for especially aggravated kidnapping, and six years for aggravated burglary, with the sentences to be served concurrently. In this direct appeal, Defendant challenges the sufficiency of the convicting evidence and asserts that the trial court erred by not dismissing the indictment following what, Defendant contends, was the State's misuse of the grand jury proceedings. After a thorough review of the record, we affirm the judgments of the trial court.

5. Status Heard 10/03/12 in Nashville

1. Style State v. Angela M. Merriman

2. Docket Number M2011-01682-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/merrimanangelamopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The State of Tennessee appeals as of right the Warren County Circuit Court's dismissal of three counts of an indictment charging the defendant, Angela M. Merriman, with driving under the influence (DUI), second offense; felony reckless endangerment; and reckless driving. Following our review of a destruction of evidence issue under an abuse of discretion rather than a de novo standard, we affirm the judgment of the trial court.

5. Status Heard 10/02/12 in Nashville

1. Style State v. James David Moats

2. Docket Number E2010-02013-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/moatsjamesdavidopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The defendant, James David Moats, stands convicted of driving under the influence ("DUI"), fourth or greater offense, a Class E felony. The trial court sentenced him as a Range I, standard offender to two years in the Tennessee Department of Correction. On appeal, the defendant argues that the trial court erred by denying his motion to suppress and motion for judgment of acquittal. Following our review, we conclude that under the facts of this case the police officer seized the defendant

when she pulled up behind the defendant's parked vehicle and activated her blue emergency lights. We further conclude that the officer did not have a reasonable suspicion of criminal activity to justify the seizure. As such, the trial court erred by denying the defendant's motion to suppress evidence, and we reverse the judgment of the trial court.

5. Status Heard 10/05/12 at the 10th Judicial District S.C.A.L.E.S. project in Athens

1. Style State v. James Pollard

2. Docket Number M2011-00332-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court

Decision Link http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/pollardjamesopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

Defendant, James Allen Pollard, was indicted by the Davidson County Grand Jury for first degree murder, felony murder, and especially aggravated robbery. Following a jury trial, Defendant was convicted as charged. The trial court merged Defendants' murder convictions and sentenced him to life in prison for first degree murder and to 18 years to be served at 100 percent for his especially aggravated robbery conviction, which was ordered to be served consecutively to his life sentence. Defendant appeals his convictions and asserts the following: 1) that the State violated the requirements of Brady v. Maryland, 373 U.S. 83, 83 S. Ct. 1194 (1963), when it failed to disclose evidence regarding State's witness Anthony Bowers; 2) the trial court erred by refusing to grant Defendant a continuance to investigate Anthony Bowers; 3) the trial court erred by denying Defendant's motion to suppress his statement to police; 4) the trial court erred by allowing Detective Windsor to testify regarding his opinion about whether Defendant acted in selfdefense; 5) the trial court committed plain error by allowing an officer to testify regarding blood spatter; 6) the alleged errors constitute cumulative error requiring a reversal of Defendants' convictions; and 7) the trial court erred by ordering Defendant's sentences to run consecutively. After a careful review of the entire record, we affirm Defendant's convictions and the lengths of his individual sentences; however, we reverse the trial court's order of consecutive sentencing and remand for a new sentencing hearing in order for the trial court to state on the record the facts which support consecutive sentencing. See State v. Wilkerson, 905 S.W.2d 933, 938 (Tenn. 1995).

5. Status Granted 02/13/13; Appellant's brief due 03/15/13

1. Style State v. Corinio Pruitt

2. Docket Number W2009-01255-SC-R3-DD

3. Lower Court

Decision Link http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/state_of_tennessee_v_corinio_pruitt.pdf

4. Lower Court
 Summary
 Capital Appellant, Corinio Pruitt, appeals as of right from his conviction for first

degree felony murder and his sentence of death resulting from the August 2005 death of Lawrence Guidroz. On February 29, 2008, a Shelby County jury found the Appellant guilty of one count of second degree murder and one count of first degree felony murder, and the trial court merged the conviction for second degree murder with the first degree murder conviction. At the conclusion of the penalty phase, the jury unanimously found the presence of three statutory aggravating circumstances; specifically, (1) the defendant had previously been convicted of one or more felonies involving the use of violence, (2) the murder was knowingly committed while the defendant had a substantial role in committing a robbery, and (3) the victim was seventy (70) years of age or older. See T.C.A. § 39-13-204(i)(2), (7), (14). The jury further determined that these three aggravating circumstances outweighed any mitigating circumstances and imposed a sentence of death. The trial court approved the sentencing verdict. On appeal, the Appellant presents the following issues for our review: (1) whether the trial court erred in failing to find the Appellant intellectually disabled 1 and ineligible for the death penalty, (2) whether the evidence is sufficient to support a conviction for first degree felony murder, (3) whether the trial court erred in permitting the introduction of the autopsy photographs of the victim, (4) whether application of the (i)(7) aggravating circumstance is constitutional, (5) whether the evidence is sufficient to support application of the (i)(7) aggravator, and (6) whether the sentence of death is proportionate in the present case. After a thorough review of the record and the applicable law, we affirm the judgment of the trial court.

5. Status

Heard 06/14/12 in Nashville; Reargument to be heard 04/03/13 in Jackson

1. Style

State v. Bobby Lee Robinson

2. Docket Number

M2009-02450-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/robinsonbobbyleeopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Davidson County jury convicted the Defendant, Bobby Lee Robinson, of possession of more than 300 grams of cocaine with intent to sell, a Class A felony; and possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor. The jury convicted the Defendant, Jamie Nathaniel Grimes, of possession of more than 300 grams of cocaine with intent to sell, a Class A felony; possession of marijuana, a Class A misdemeanor; and possession of drug paraphernalia, a Class A misdemeanor. The trial court sentenced Robinson to seventeen years as a standard offender for the cocaine offense, and eleven months and twenty-nine days for the misdemeanor offense, with all of the sentences to be served concurrently. The trial court sentenced Grimes to thirty years as a multiple offender for the cocaine offense and to eleven months and twenty-nine days for each misdemeanor offense, ordering all of the sentences to be served concurrently. On appeal, Robinson argues that: (1) the trial court erred when it allowed the State to introduce a redacted tape recording and transcript of statements he made during his arrest; (2) the trial court erred when it denied his motion for judgment of acquittal; and (3) the evidence was insufficient to support his convictions. Grimes argues that the trial court erred when it: (1) improperly admitted evidence about the weight of the cocaine; (2) denied his motion for disclosure of the confidential informant's identity; and (3) admitted a transcript of a recorded conversation between him and the confidential informant into evidence. After reviewing the record, the parties' briefs, and the applicable law, we affirm the judgments of the trial court as to both Defendants.

5. Status Heard 10/04/12 in Nashville 1. Style State v. Henry Floyd Sanders M2011-00962-SC-R11-CD 2. Docket Number 3. Lower Court Decision Link http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/sandershenryfloyd.pdf 4. Lower Court Summary Appellant, Henry Floyd Sanders, was indicted for six counts of aggravated sexual battery and four counts of rape of a child. On appellant's motion, the trial court dismissed one count of aggravated sexual battery on the grounds of insufficient evidence. The jury returned verdicts of guilty on all remaining counts. The trial court ordered appellant to serve partial consecutive sentences of ten years each for the aggravated sexual battery convictions and twenty years each for the rape of a child convictions, yielding an effective forty-year sentence. Appellant raises three issues on appeal: (1) whether the trial court erred in denying his motion to suppress his statements to a third party; (2) whether the trial court erred in denying his motion for judgment of acquittal due to a variance between the bill of particulars and the State's election; and (3) whether the trial court erred in ordering partial consecutive sentences. Discerning no error, we affirm the judgments of the trial court. 5. Status Granted 02/15/13; Appellant's brief due 03/18/13 1. Style State v. Glover P. Smith 2. Docket Number M2011-00440-SC-R11-CD 3. Lower Court Decision Link http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/smithgloveropn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Rutherford County Circuit Court Jury convicted the appellant, Glover P. Smith, of fabricating evidence in counts 1 and 2 and filing a false report in counts 3 through 8. During a sentencing hearing, the trial court merged the appellant's convictions of filing a false report in counts 3, 4, and 5 and ordered that he serve an

effective sentence of one year in jail followed by six years of probation. Subsequently, the trial court granted the appellant's motion for judgment of acquittal as to the fabricating evidence convictions based upon insufficient evidence. On appeal, the State contends that the trial court erred by granting the appellant's motion for judgment of acquittal. In a counter-appeal, the appellant maintains that the evidence is insufficient to support the convictions; that the trial court improperly instructed the jury on "knowingly"; that newly discovered evidence warrants a new trial; that the State committed a Brady violation; that his multiple convictions in counts 3, 4, and 5 and in counts 6, 7, and 8 violate double jeopardy; that the trial court improperly enhanced his sentences and improperly

denied his request for full probation; and that the cumulative effect of the errors warrants a new trial. Based upon the oral arguments, the record, and the parties' briefs, we conclude that the trial court erred by granting the appellant's motion for judgment of acquittal and reinstate his convictions of fabricating evidence in counts 1 and 2, the merger of the convictions, and the sentence. We also conclude that the trial court should have dismissed the charges of filing a false report in counts 4 and 5 because they were multiplicitous with the charge in count 3. The appellant's remaining convictions and sentences for filing a false report in counts 6, 7, and 8 are affirmed.

5. Status

Granted 12/13/12; Appellant's notice of election filed 01/08/13; State's response brief due 03/11/13, after extension

- 1. Style
- State v. William Darelle Smith
- 2. Docket Number
- M2010-01384-SC-R11-CD
- 3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/smithwilliamopn.pdf http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/smithwilliamdarrelcon.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

A Davidson County jury convicted the Defendant, William Darelle Smith, of first degree premeditated murder, and the trial court sentenced the Defendant to serve a life sentence in the Tennessee Department of Correction. The Defendant appeals his conviction, claiming the following: (1) the trial court erred when it allowed the Defendant's girlfriend to testify about threatening statements the Defendant made two or three days before the victim's murder; (2) the evidence is insufficient to support his conviction; and (3) the trial court erred when it failed to inquire into possible juror misconduct. After a thorough review of the record and applicable law, we affirm the trial court's judgment.

5. Status

Heard 02/07/13 in Nashville

1. Style

State v. Michael Shane Springer

2. Docket Number

W2010-02153-SC-R11-CD

3. Lower Court

Decision Link http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/springermopn.pdf http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/springermcon.pdf

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/springermichaelconglenn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

The Defendant pled guilty to two counts of rape of a child and reserved the following certified question: "Whether the Trial Court erred in failing to grant the defendant's Motion to Dismiss alleging the State violated the provisions of the Interstate Agreement on Detainers (T.C.A. 40-31-101 et seq, U.S. Code Title 18-App) and the anti-shuttling provisions therein pursuant to *Alabama v. Bozeman*, 5[3]3 U.S. 146 (2001)." For differing reasons, the majority of this panel affirms the Defendant's convictions.

5.	Status	Heard 02/06/13 in Nashville
1.	Style	Artis Whitehead v. State
2.	Docket Number	W2010-00784-SC-R11-PC
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/whiteheadartisopn.pdf
4.	Lower Court Summary	The petitioner, Artis Whitehead, appeals from the denial of his untimely petition for post-conviction relief. The post-conviction court denied the petition after finding that due process concerns did not toll the statute of limitations. The petitioner argues that due process concerns should toll the statute of limitations because (1) appellate counsel still represented him when she sent a letter informing him of the incorrect deadline for filing his petition for post-conviction relief and (2) that incorrect information was a misrepresentation sufficient to cause due process concerns to toll the statute of limitations. Upon our careful review of the record, the parties' arguments, and the applicable law, we affirm the denial of post-conviction relief.
5.	Status	Heard 10/02/12 in Nashville
1.	Style	Christine Stevens ex rel. Mark Stevens v. Hickman Community Health Care Services, Inc. et al.
2.	Docket Number	M2012-00582-SC-S09-CV
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Granted 10/17/12; Appellant's brief filed 12/12/12; Appellee's brief filed 02/25/13
1.	Style	Marta Vandall v. Aurora Healthcare, LLC
2.	Docket Number	W2011-02042-SC-R3-WC
3.	Lower Court Decision Link	n/a
4.	Lower Court Summary	n/a
5.	Status	Assigned on briefs 02/12/13

1. Style Westgate Smoky Mountains at Gatlinburg v. Karla Davis, Commissioner of the

Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development et al.

2. Docket Number E2011-02538-SC-R11-CV

3. Lower Court Decision Link

http://www.tncourts.gov/sites/default/files/westgateopn.pdf

4. Lower Court Summary

This is an unemployment compensation case. Cynthia L. Vukich-Daw filed a claim for unemployment compensation following her termination from Westgate Resorts. The claim was originally granted by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development and subsequently upheld by the Appeals Tribunal and the Board of Review. Westgate Resorts filed a petition for judicial review, and the trial court reversed the Board of Review's decision, finding that Cynthia L. Vukich-Daw was ineligible to receive unemployment compensation benefits because she was a qualified real estate agent pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated section 50-7-207. Cynthia L. Vukich-Daw and the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development appeal. We reverse the decision of the trial court.

Development appear. We reverse the decision of the trial court

5. Status To be beard 05/30/13 at the Girls State S.C.A.L.E.S. project